Mr - Randy Snider City Council Lodi, California

Dear Randy,

A few months ago, a house that sets directly adjacent to my back yard was sold. The people that bought the house decided to build a barn in the rear of their back yard. In the process of building their barn, they cut approximately a foot off the top of my rear fence. This enabled them to use the lower five feet of fence for the lower portion of their barn without using any additional lumber. They then used the upper horizontal 2 X 4 on the fence to support the upper half of their barn.

I fully realize that this is a civil matter and not a problem that concerns the city. However, in reviewing the city code, 17.57.160 ACCESSORY BUILDINGS, I find that this code permits this type of building, in that it does not contain any easements between property lines. I can only imagine that this code was written in the time that many of the rear yards in Lodi had alleys between rear properties.

In the last ten years, Lodi has experienced a great deal of growth. During this time, the size of building lots has declined. Therefore, I would like to enlist your support in amending the city code 17.57.160 to include a five foot easement between property lines for accessory buildings.

I strongly believe that the above mentioned amendment to this particular code would eliminate future problems for property owners in Lodi.

Gary G. Greider